

Statement regarding AGOA to be attributed to the Ethiopian Ministry of Trade and Regional Integration:

““We are extremely disappointed by the threat of AGOA withdrawal currently under consideration by the U.S. Government. These actions will reverse significant economic gains in our country and unfairly impact and harm women and children. Ethiopia will continue to make every effort to correct any unintended or perceived wrongs. This decision must be reversed by January 1, 2022 and we urge the United States to support our ongoing efforts to restore peace and the rule of law – not punish our people for confronting an insurgent force that is attempting to bring down our democratically elected government.

“The Ethiopian government takes all human rights allegations seriously: we are looking at them and conducting investigations and we are committed to ensuring accountability. Our seriousness has been demonstrated because we have allowed the UN Commission for Human Rights to conduct investigations with the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission. Only a government that’s committed to the highest standard of transparency and integrity would subject itself to this kind of scrutiny. The Ethiopian government is committed to ensure that all perpetrators of serious crimes will be brought to justice.”

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